

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE  
TO USICA WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 3163

USICA

FOR ICA/AF

KHARTOUM FOR DAS DALLEY

E.O. 11652 N/A  
TAGS: N/A  
SUBJECT: DALLEY / HOLLOWAY DINNER DISCUSSION

REF: (A) YAOUNDE 3113, (B) YAOUNDE 3114 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VISIT TO POST OF MR. GEORGE A. ALLEY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, AND DR. ANNE HOLLOWAY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO AMEMBASSADOR YOUNG AND DIRECTOR OF HIS OFFICE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, POST ORGANIZED A DINNER DISCUSSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE DCM RESIDENCE FOR THE SPEAKERS AND SELECTED ARS PRIMARY AUDIENCE MEMBERS.
  2. THE PROGRAM BEGAN WITH A VTR PRESENTATION OF THE CBS SPECIAL REPORT, "THE PRESIDENT COMES HOMES." THIS VTR WAS HELPFUL INsofar AS IT RAISED SOME OF THE "HARD" QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE U.S. DEPENDENCE ON OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES ON THE OTHER. THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO
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NIGERIAN WAS PUT IN WORLD-WIDE PERSPECTIVE AND POST FELT THIS WAS HELPFUL SINCE THE AUDIENCE WAS THUS TO GET A REALISTIC PICTURE OF THE KINDS OF INTERNATIONAL FACTORS THAT AFFECT OVERALL U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. THE AUDIENCE WAS ALSOFAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY THE SOMETIMES CRITICAL COVERAGE BY THE CBS REPORTERS, WHICH ILLUSTRATED TO THEM THE DEGREE OF PRESS FREEDOM THAT EXISTS IN THE U.S.

3. THE A AND R PERIOD THAT FOLLOWED THE VTR PRESENTATION COVERED THE ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS FROM BOTH PRACTICAL AND THEORETICAL POINTS OF VIEW. THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE RAISED THE QUESTION, SECONDED BY MANY IN THE AUDIENCE, OF APPARENT HYPOCRISY IN U.S. SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS WHEN NO EFFECTIVE, ACTIVE MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA BY THE U.S. TO END FLAGRANT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THERE. MR. DALLEY RESPONDED THAT THE U.S. HAS IN FACT TAKEN CONCRETE ACTIONS UNDER THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION AND THAT U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE U.N. VOTE ON THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WAS EVIDENCE OF THIS POLICY. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS NEITHER ENCOURAGING NOR DISCOURAGING ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, AGAIN, THIS WAS A POLICY THAT WAS HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. MR. DALLEY'S ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION DID NOT, OF COURSE, SATISFY HIS LISTENERS COMPLETELY, BUT HIS INSISTENCE THAT U.S. POLICY WAS CHANGING NO MATTER HOW GRADUALLY, IN THE DIRECTION OF CONCRETE SUPPORT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES WAS IMPRESSIVE.

THE SECOND LINE OF QUESTIONING WAS ON A MORE PHILOSOPHICAL LEVEL: AT WHAT POINT DOES RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUAL HUMAN RIGHTS INFRINGE UPON THE RIGHTS OF SOCIETY AS A WHOLE? THIS POINT WAS RAISED IN PARTICULAR CONNECTION WITH TERRORISM, BUT CLEARLY IMPLIED WAS THE PROBLEM OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL STABILITY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD WHERE COUNTRIES FACE SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND OTHER "EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES" THAT MAKE IMPRACTICAL A SCRUPULOUS ADHERENCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS UNDERSTOOD AND INTERPRETED BY THE U.S.

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DALLEY HAD IN FACT DISCUSSED THIS VERY QUESTION EARLIER WITH THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE. THE MINISTER AND CAMEROONIS IN THE AUDIENCE THAT EVENING, FELT THAT THE IMMEDIATE PRACTICAL PROBLEM FACED BY THE DEVELOPING WORLD DEMANDED A LOOSER CONSTRUCTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES THAN THAT ADVOCATED BY THE U.S. DALLEY ASSURED THE AUDIENCE THAT THE U.S. WAS BEGINNING TO BROADEN ITS OWN DEFINITION TO INCLUDE MORE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC "HUMAN RIGHTS" AND DID NOT IN FACT EXPECT THE PRACTICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD TO JIBE PERFECTLY WITH THE U.S. UNDERSTANDING OR PRACTICE OF THESE PRINCIPLES. HE DID ARGUE, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.N. CHARTER SET OUT SOME GROUNDWORK AND THAT THERE WERE SOME AREAS ON WHICH EVERYONE COULD AGREE--PROHIBITION OF TORTURE, OF ARBITRARY ARREST AND DETENTION, ETC. ON HIS POINT THE AUDIENCE AGREED.

4. DALLEY AND HOLLOWAY BOTH DEMONSTRATED A SINCERE CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND AVOIDED THE KIND OF MORAL RHETORIC THAT TENDS TO MAKE AUDIENCES DEFENSIVE. THEY CONVINCINGLY PRESENTED THE CASE THAT HUMAN RIGHTS IS AN ACTIVE PRINCIPLE OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY AND THAT ALTHOUGH THE U.S. MIGHT NOT BE MOVING AHEAD WITH THE INTENSITY AND SPEED OTHERS WOULD WISH, IT WAS MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION AND WAS INCREASINGLY READY TO SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHT PRINCIPLES WITH CONCRETE ACTIONS. THE POST IN PARTICULAR FOUND DALLEY'S

SOBER, SINCERE AND SENSIBLE APPROACH TO THIS VERY SENSITIVE  
SUBJECT QUITE EFFECTIVE.

5. SINCE PART OF THE DALLEY/HOLLOWAY PROGRAM CONCERNED U.S.  
POLICY TOWARD AFRICA, THE POST CONSIDER ITS PROJECT PROPOSAL NO.1  
PARTIALLY FULFILLED, ALTHOUGH THE POST IS STILL LOOKING FOR A  
VISIT FROM AN ADMINISTRATIVE SPOKESMAN WHO IS FRENCH-SPEAKING AND  
WHO WOULD BE PREPARED TO TALK DIRECTLY ON THE POLITICAL AND  
ECONOMIC POLICY OF THE U.S. TOWARD AFRICA.

6. SUPPORT MATERIALS USED FOR THE PROGRAM INCLUDED: PRESIDENT  
CARTER'S ANNAPOLIS SPEECH, SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH ON AFRICA AND  
AMERICAN POLICY," HIS SPEECH AT ATLANTIC CITY OF JUNE 20 AND  
STATEMENT BEFORE THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF 19 JUNE,  
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PRESIDENT CARTER'S PAMPHLET "THE INCESSANT SEARCH FOR PEACE, "ICA  
BOOKLET "PRESIDENT CARTER IN AFRICA," AND " EXPLAINING THE NORTH  
/SOUTH DIALOG,"

7. POST WAS PLEASED TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE  
SPOKESPERSONS DALLEY AND HOLLOWAY. THEY WERE THE KIND OF SPEAKERS  
THAT THE AUDIENCE MEMBERS FROM THE PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE,  
MINISTERIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PUBLIC SERVICE AND INFORMATION AND  
CULTURE, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND UNIVERSITY PARTICULARLY APPRECI-  
ATE AND RESPECT. POST HOPES THAT AGENCY CAN PROVIDE SIMILAR  
SPEAKERS IN THE FUTURE.

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## Message Attributes

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